

but owing to the absence of a male it is not considered advisable to base a description on this material.

REFERENCES.

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XXI.—*On a new Species of Armadillidium*. By HAROLD G. JACKSON, M.Sc., Birkbeck College, University of London.

THE species of *Armadillidium* described and figured below is founded on a large amount of material sent to me by Mr. Edward Speyer, M.A. He collected it in the cucumber-houses of the Experimental and Research Station, Cheshunt, Herts, and I have great pleasure in associating his name with it. I am also indebted to him for most of the figures illustrating this paper.

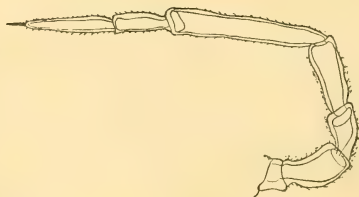
The holotype of the species is deposited in the British Museum, where the work for this note has been done, by the courtesy of Dr. W. T. Calman, F.R.S.

Armadillidium speyeri, sp. n.

Male specimen described.

Body oblong-oval, 11 mm. long by 5 mm. broad ;

Fig. 1.

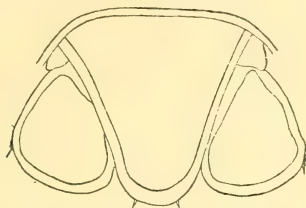


Armadillidium speyeri, antenna.

moderately convex above. Surface smooth with very minute granulations. Front of head slightly curved ; very

deeply notched in the mid-line; on each side of notch a shallow groove passes backwards and outwards over the forehead to join the hind border of the head just behind each eye. Lateral lobes small. Antennary tubercles (*Dollfus*) moderately large, their rims thicker on the inner than on the outer side. Epistomal shield turned upwards and greatly exceeding the forehead.

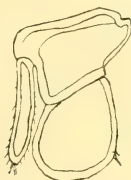
Fig. 2.



Armadillidium speyeri, telson and uropods, from above.

Posterior edge of first somite of *thorax* nearly straight in middle; its coxal plates drawn back sharply to form acute backwardly directed angles; junction of posterior edges of coxal plates with posterior edge of scutum sinuate and not marked by deep notch. Coxal plates of second, third, and fourth somites successively less drawn back, and with obtuse postero-lateral angles; postero-lateral angles of remainder subrectangular. *Abdomen* not abruptly contracted and

Fig. 3.



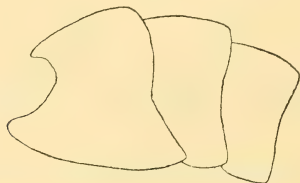
Armadillidium speyeri, left uropod, from below.

semicircular in outline. "Telson" about as broad at base as long; triangulate, sides very slightly concave, apex bluntly rounded. *Antenna* not more than one-third the whole body; distal joint of flagellum about half as long again as proximal; whole flagellum shorter than last peduncular joint. Exopodite of *uropod* subrectangular in shape, but longer than basal part; endopodite slender, styliiform, reaching back nearly as far as apex of "telson."

Mouth-parts as in *A. vulgare*. *Colour*: general surface varying from slate-blue to dark brown. A continuous narrow light band runs down the middle of every somite, but not on the head or "telson." The coxal plates are light with narrow, dark, posterior margin. Between coxal plates and median line the dark areas of each somite are broken up with light mottling.

Remarks.—This species is distinguished from *A. nasatum*, B. L. (with which it was formerly confused), by the following

Fig. 4.



Armadillidium speyeri, first three thoracic somites, from the side.

characters. The epistomal shield, although very prominent, is not so pronounced; the front of the head is much more deeply notched in the median line; the hind edge of the first thoracic somite is not deeply notched on each side of the posterior edge; the "telson" is not narrow and pointed, but widely rounded at the apex; the external plate of the uropod is rectangular and not spatulate, and the segments of the flagellum are markedly unequal. That it has been confused

Fig. 5.



Armadillidium nasatum, first three thoracic somites, from the side.

with *A. nasatum* in the past is shown by an examination of Budde-Lund's copious material in the British Museum, Natural History. A large collection from S.W. France, labelled *A. nasatum*, could easily be divided into two portions comprising the true *A. nasatum* and the present species. It is suggested that *A. speyeri* is a species of a warm climate that has been imported into England some time in the past, and has only found it possible to exist

in an artificially heated environment such as is provided by the cucumber-houses in which it was found.

Bionomics. Mr. Speyer has been good enough to send the following interesting note on the habits of this species :—

“The species here described is in the British Isles probably confined to glass-houses in which a high temperature is maintained. It is an active species, living on the surface of soil in the cucumber-houses, feeding by day as well as by night on various forms of fermenting cellulose and also on living plant-tissues. In winter it does not burrow in the soil to any great depth, but hides under clods of earth and in wall-crevices. Many thousands of specimens have been caught in pot-traps filled with straw in a single night. Outside glass-houses it has not been found, except under bricks and in warm places in the immediate vicinity of the houses; even the temperature of tomato-houses does not appear high enough to afford sufficient heat for its existence for any length of time. Mating occurs on hot mornings in May, and the young, to the number of fifty, escape from the brood-pouches in June.

“This is the most destructive of all wood-lice found in glass-houses, and, in addition to destroying tomato-seedlings in the propagating-house, does considerable damage by eating holes in the leaves of young cucumber-plants, and later gnawing the stem and surface-roots of full-grown plants. The species is gregarious, somewhat similar to *A. pictum*, Br., which is also common in cucumber-houses. Further details of the habits of *A. speyeri*, Jackson, will appear in the Annual Report of the Experimental and Research Station, Turner’s Hill, Cheshunt, Herts, for 1922.”

XXII.—*On a new Genus and Species of Colubrine Snake from S.E. Brazil.* By JOAN B. PROCTER, F.Z.S.

THE interesting new snake described in the present paper came into the possession of the British Museum in a rather amusing way. A bottle of mixed specimens without data of any kind was brought to me for identification in the Easter holidays by a boy who is very keen on such things. The bottle, amongst other things, contained specimens of the S. American legless lizards *Amphisbæna darwini* and *Ophiodes striatus*; the two small snakes proved to be puzzling and